

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /102 W
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7751

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD BY POUCH

AMCONSUL MUNICH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 5321

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UR

SUBJECT: RSFSR NONCHERNOZEM DEVELOPMENT

1. SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA PUBLISHED ON APRIL 5 A MAJOR ARTICLE ON THE RSFSR NONCHERNOZEM DEVELOPMENT AREA WITH A MAP SHOWING THAT EASTERNMOST AREA IS SVERDLOVSK OBLAST. AREA RUNS FROM ORLOVSKAYA OBLAST IN SOUTH, KALININGRADSKAYA OBLAST IN WEST, TO MURMANSKAYA OBLAST IN NORTH. THIS MAP SHOULD PUT TO REST EARLY WESTERN PRESS REPORTAGE ABOUT ALLEGE RELATIONSHIP OF THIS PROGRAM TO SIBERIAN DEVELOPMENT, AND HENCE TO SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS, RESULTING FROM LINGUISTIC TRAP POSED BY BREZHNEV'S MARCH 15 USE OF "NEW VIRGIN LANDS" (NOVAYA TSELINA).

2. SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA IS CONTINUING REPORTAGE ON VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF JOINT PARTY AND STATE DECREE PUBLISHED APRIL 3. RSFSR MINISTER OF ROAD BUILDING, A. NIKOLAYEV, COMMENTS IN APRIL 8 ISSUE ON PRESENT POOR STATE OF COUNTRY ROADS IN CONTEXT OF HIS ASSIGNMENT TO BUILD 25,000 KILOMETERS OF ROADS. AT PRESENT, ONE OF FIVE RAYON CENTERS LACKS A ROAD TO
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ITS OBLAST CENTER, ACCORDING TO NIKOLAYEV.

3. AN INTERESTING QUESTION IS WHETHER THE SOVIET
DECISION TO COMMIT 35 BILLION RUBLES TO THIS PROJECT
OVER A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD ANTICIPATES THAT THERE WIL
BE A "DETENTE DIVIDEND" TO SPEND ON SUCH PROJECTS.
IT WOULD APPEAR TOUS THAT THE AMOUNT IS NOT LARGE
ENOUGH TO BE ABLE TO DRAW SUCH CONCLUSIONS, BUT
EMBASSY IS NOT IN A POSITION TO MAKE A JUDGMENT
AND WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE RECEIVING THE ASSESSMENT
OF WASHINGTON AGENCIES.
STOESSEL

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